

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SEOUL 05551 280553Z POSS DUPE
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00
SSO-00 INRE-00 /055 W
-----061352 280624Z /14
O 280524Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1918
INFO USICA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 5551

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGOV, KS, US
SUBJECT: REPORTED ROKG ACTION AGAINST NBC TV NEWS

1. BRUCE MCDONALD, NBC ASIA BUREAU CHIEF, CONTACTED EMBASSY FROM HONG KONG EVENING JUNE 27. HE HAD REPORT NBC CAMERAMAN LEE KYUNG-MO HAD FILMED JUNE 26 STUDENT DEMONSTRATION IN SEOUL, AND WHEN LEE ATTEMPTED TO AIRSHIP FILM TO TOKYO FILM WAS SEIZED AT AIRPORT AND LEE TAKEN INTO CUSTODY.
2. MCDONALD ASKED EMBASSY ASSISTANCE. HE SAID ABC TV AND CBS TV AWARE OF REPORT AND ALL THREE TVS PLANNING COVER INCIDENT ON NETWORK NEWS. NBC ALSO PLANNING CONTACT ROK EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON AND MCDONALD WAS ATTEMPTING TO REACH MINISTER OF CULTURE/INFORMATION.
3. EMBASSY CHECKED LOCAL SOURCES AND LEARNED THAT NBC'S FILM HAD BEEN SEIZED BUT LEE HAD NOT RPT NOT BEEN DETAINED. HE HAD SPENT DAY AT AIRPORT ATTEMPTING TO RETIREVE FILM. EMBASSY RELAYED THIS INFORMATION TO NBC HONG KON. EMBASSY ALSO CONTACTED MOFA, MCUI AND OTHER ROKG AGENCIES TO ASK REASON FOR SEIZURE AND TO POINT OUT THAT STRONG NEGATIVE U.S. PRESS REACTION, HARMFUL TO KOREAN INTERESTS, COULD BE EXPECTED IN WAKE OF THIS INCIDENT.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SEOUL 05551 280553Z POSS DUPE

4. MOFA NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS BUREAU LOOKED INTO MATTER AND INFORMED EMBASSY THAT CUSTOMS OFFICIALS AT KIMPO CONSIDERED FILM IN VIOLATION OF EMERGENCY MEASURE NINE AND THEREFORE HAD CONFISCATED IT. NO ACTION AGAINST THE KOREAN NATIONAL EMPLOYEES OF NBC WAS PLANNED, HOWEVER.

5. EMBASSY CONTINUING EFFORTS TO CLARIFY SITUATION.
STERN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FILMS, STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS, ARRESTS, JOURNALISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978SEOUL05551
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780267-0213
Format: TEL
From: SEOUL
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780611/aaaaajnc.tel
Line Count: 64
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: fbbcc97d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2171977
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPORTED ROKG ACTION AGAINST NBC TV NEWS
TAGS: PGOV, PINS, PINT, KS, US, (LEE KYUNG-MO)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/fbbcc97d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014